THE MOST EXCITING EVENT IN STAMP COLLECTING

THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

WEMBLEY EXHIBITION CENTRE,

LONDON, ENGLAND

27TH – 30TH APRIL 1995

EXHIBITION GUIDE

OFFICIALLY SUPPORTED BY:

STANLEY GIBBONS

Royal Mail

SPECIAL SHOW OFFERS & WEMBLEY SOUVENIR SHEET INSIDE

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THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION
WEMBLEY EXHIBITION CENTRE,
LONDON, ENGLAND
27TH – 30TH APRIL 1995

DATES AND OPENING TIMES

THURSDAY 27TH APRIL
NOON — 8.00P.M.

FRIDAY 28TH APRIL
10.30A.M — 7.00P.M.

SATURDAY 29TH APRIL
10.30A.M. — 7.00P.M.

SUNDAY 30TH APRIL
10.30A.M. — 5.00P.M.

OFFICIALLY SUPPORTED BY:

STANLEY GIBBONS

"BY SUPPORTING STAMP '95 WE AIM TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF STAMP COLLECTING IN THIS COUNTRY, REGENERATE INTEREST AND ATTRACT PEOPLE INTO, OR BACK INTO STAMP COLLECTING IN ALL ITS FORMS.

WE FEEL THAT SUCH AN INTERNATIONAL EVENT IS AN IDEAL OPPORTUNITY TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES AND THERE IS SPACE IN THE MARKET PLACE THAT DOES NOT PRECLUDE CURRENT EVENTS. WE HOPE THAT EVERYONE WILL SUPPORT STAMP '95 AND HELP SUPPORT THE FUTURE OF STAMP COLLECTING."

MR PAUL FRASER, CHAIRMAN
STANLEY GIBBONS

Royal Mail

"WE ARE HAPPY TO BE SUPPORTING STAMP '95 WITH STANLEY GIBBONS. WE BELIEVE IT WILL BE A FIRST CLASS ADDITION TO THE PHILATELIC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 1995 AND WILL HELP CREATE A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR STAMP COLLECTING."

JULIE DUNWIDDIE
DIRECT & OVERSEAS SALES MANAGER,
ROYAL MAIL.

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PLAN OF EXHIBITION

Key to attractions

1 Visitors registration

2 Seminar/valuations booking desk

3 Free seminars

4 Charity auction

5 Famous Wembley collections

6 Free valuation service/ auction viewings

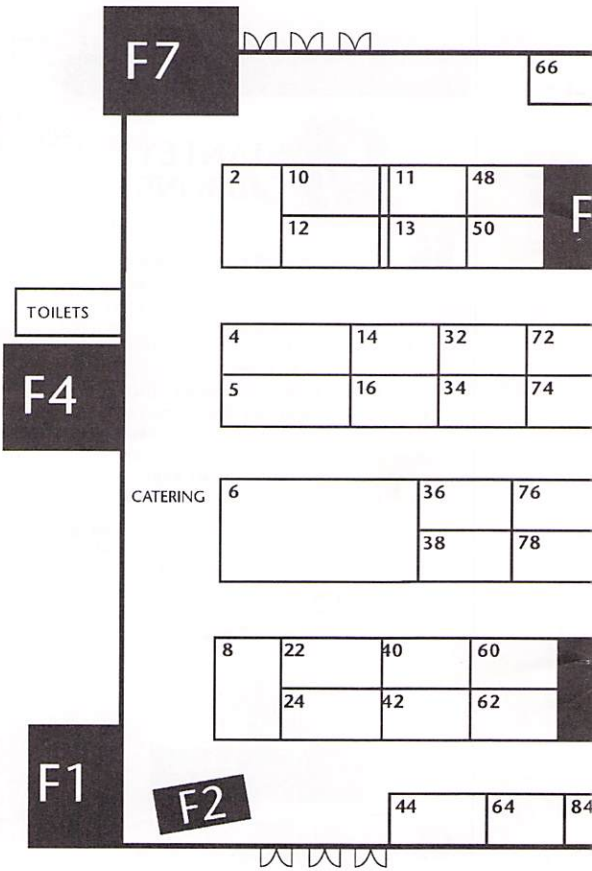
7 Supervised children's play area

8 National Postal Museum

9 David Harrop postal memorabilia exhibition

10 Design-a-stamp competition

11 Standholders' lounge



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SPECIAL FEATURE STANDS

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F3 – Seminar Theatre

F4 – Charity Auction

F5 – Famous Wembley Collections

F6 – Free Valuation Service

F7 – Supervised Children's Play Area

F8 – The National Postal Museum

F9 – The David Harrop Collection

F10 – 'Design-A-Stamp' Competition

F11 – Standholders' Lounge

* Stand number not known at the time of going to press.

H and B Philatelists Ltd

SPECIALISTS IN THE POSTAGE STAMPS OF GREAT BRITAIN

COME AND SEE OUR STOCK AT
STAND 16

Abnormals
APPROVALS SERVICE – INTERNATIONAL
Artwork
Books
Cancellations – distinctive/unusual
Controls – cylinder/blocks
Covers
Die Proofs/colour trials
Downey heads
ERRORS – ALL REIGNS
Essays
Exhibition cancels
Fiscals
Forgeries
George VI varieties
High values
ILLUSTRATED LISTS
Imprimaturs
Jubilee issue
King Edward VII – all aspects
King Edward VIII – all aspects
Line Engraved – all aspects
Missing colours
Mulreadies/caricatures
Numbers in Cross
Officials
Postal notices
Propaganda Forgeries
Proofs
PENNY BLACKS
PENNY REDS – plates/letterings
Postage dues
Postal History
Postal Stationery
QUEEN ELIZABETH II ERRORS
QUEEN VICTORIA RARITIES
RARITIES
Revenues
Seahorses
Specimen overprints
Telegraphs
THEMATICS (Exhibition items only)
Trials
Two Penny Blue Imperf/Perf
Under/overprints
VARIETIES – ALL REIGNS
Watermark errors
XYZ – come and find out!!

BUYERS
AND SELLERS
OF FINE
AND
UNUSUAL
GREAT BRITAIN

IF YOU
ARE UNABLE
TO MAKE IT TO
OUR STAND PLEASE
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LIST

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5 Christmas Steps, Bristol BS1 5BS
Tel: 01179 265221 Fax: 01179 258735

FOLKESTONE STAMP AND COLLECTORS NEWS

ISSUE No. 23
50p
APRIL 1995
Partners: Richard Kennedy and Brian Uden.

FRENCH AIRMAILS

FA01 1936 50fr Banknote SG 541 UM. Cat. £1000+ **£575.00**
FA02 1936 50fr Banknote SG 541 Fine Used. Cat. £250.00 ..... **£130.00**
FA03 1936 S. American Pair SG 553-554 Used. Cat. £90.00 ..... **£40.00**
FA04 1930 Air Pair SG 483-484 MM. Cat. £30.00 ..... **£13.00**
FA05 1938 50fr Ader SG 612a Nice Used. Cat. £55.00 ..... **£25.00**

APRIL OFFERS

AP01 Sierra Leone 1904 EDVII £1 SG 85 MM. Cat. £200 ..... **£95.00**
AP02 Rhodesia 1910 £1 Double Head SG 166a Nice Used. Cat. £600 ..... **£275.00**
AP03 Great Britain 1884 QV £1 SG 185 Fine Used but Blue Registration Mark. Cat. £850 ..... **£395.00**
AP04 Saar 1931 Set SG 143-149 Fine Used. Cat. £375.00 ..... **£150.00**
AP05 Nabha State 1938 GVI 25rs SG 94 UM. Cat. £200.00 ..... **£115.00**
AP06 Canada 1852 3c Beaver Pair SG 5 Nice Used. Cat. £320+ **£130.00**
AP07 Falkland Islands 1914 GV £1 SG 69 UM. Cat. £300 as MM **£200.00**
AP08 Italy 1879 30c Brown SG35 Fine Used with Readable Cancel. Cat. £1,400.00 ..... **£600.00**

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* MAGAZINE *

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$ CURRENCY $

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U.S.A. $	1.80
Belgium Franc	50.00
Malta	0.65

GB HIGH VALUE PARCEL STAMPS

	UM	F/USED
PS01. 1977 £1.00 SG 1026	£1.35	—
PS02. 1983 £1.30 SG 1026b	£3.00	£3.00
PS03. 1984 £1.33 SG 1026c	£3.75	£2.25
PS04. 1985 £1.41 SG 1026d	£3.60	£2.25
PS05. 1986 £1.50 SG 1026e	£2.30	£2.00
PS06. 1987 £2.00 SG 1026f	£2.75	£1.75
PS07. 1977 £2.00 SG 1207	£3.00	£2.75
PS08. 1977 £5.00 SG 1028	£7.00	£1.20

PTS FOLKESTONE STAMPS AND COLLECTORS SHOP PTS

8 & 8a Old High Street Folkestone, Kent CT20 1RL. (01303) 850672

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE AT STAMP '95

SPECIAL FEATURES

VISITOR REGISTRATION - F1

Upon registration, all visitors will receive a copy of the exhibition guide including the Stamp '95 Souvenir Sheet. You are automatically included in the special Stamp '95 draw when you register, the top prize in which is a holiday for two to the Singapore '95 stamp exhibition in September, details of other competition prizes are given on page 9. All young visitors will also receive a free 'Goody' bag and treasure hunt entry form, the successful completion of which will bring further additions to the bag!

SEMINAR VALUATIONS BOOKING DESK - F2

Book here to attend the seminars of your choice or to make an appointment with the stamp valuation team.

THE FREE SEMINAR PROGRAMME - F3

A series of talks will run each day of the show details of the speakers and their subjects being given on page 18 of this guide. Please register at the booking desk (F2) inside the entrance if you would like to attend any of these talks.

THE CHARITY AUCTION - F4

A special auction will be held on the evening of Friday 28 April in aid of the Children's Society. For further details see page 15 of this guide. Lots may be viewed prior to the sale on stand F6. Tickets to the auction are also available from Stand F6.

FAMOUS WEMBLEY COLLECTIONS - F5

1995 is the 70th anniversary of the 1925 British Empire Exhibition. Collections devoted to the stamps and postal history of the 1924 and 1925 Exhibitions, which gave rise to Britain's first ever commemorative stamps, can be seen on stand 5. See pages 21 and 23 for further details.

FREE VALUATION SERVICE - F6

Experts with a wealth of knowledge and experience will be on hand to provide you with an opportunity to uncover the true value of your philatelic treasures. This free service is available to all visitors, whether you have uncovered a forgotten heirloom in the attic or are just seeking a second opinion on your beloved possessions. Please call at the booking desk inside the main entrance for an appointment.

CHILDREN'S SUPERVISED PLAY AREA - F7

This fully enclosed area provides careful supervision and timetabled activities for up to 30 children. Recommended for those aged between 2 and 8 years old, a range of toys and equipment will be available and a variety of theme linked activities will take place.

THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM - F8

The National Postal Museum will take visitors back in time with an illustrated history of the Penny Black and into the future with 'Stampmaster', the latest computerised stamp catalogue of all GB stamps and demonstrations of the latest watermark and phosphor detection technology. Also on display will be the boyhood collection of the late Freddie Mercury. For more details see page 28.

THE DAVID HARROP COLLECTION - F9

Entitled 'From Post Boy to Airmail', this fascinating display of postal memorabilia has been selected by David Harrop from his amazing collection. See page 25 of this guide.

ROYAL MAIL DESIGN A STAMP COMPETITION - F10

Junior visitors will have the chance to design a stamp whilst at the show; either conventionally by hand-drawn methods or by testing their skills on the latest computer-aided design technology being specially set up for the show by stamp printers The House of Questa and Royal Mail.

Sessions of 45 minutes will each cater for supervised groups of six entrants working on the theme of 'Wildlife' and aided by both conventional and computer reprographic artists. Competitors have the chance to win an impressive range of prizes with the three winners having the chance to see their designs being printed at 'The House of Questa', later in the year. Those wishing to take part in the competition should first register their name and details at the stand in order to be allocated a session time.

YOUR GUIDE TO THE STAMP '95 STANDHOLDERS

ALAND ISLANDS POSTAL ADMINISTRATION - STAND 16

Welcome to the Aland Islands postal administration, Posten Aland. Our philatelic manager Mrs Anita Haggblom will be at your service. We offer you mint stamps, year sets from 1992 to 1994, booklets and telephone cards. And don't miss our beautiful exhibition card depicting London.

AN POST, IRISH POST OFFICE HARRY ALLEN - STAND 145

Come and visit our sales booth where you can see all the latest new issues direct from Dublin, Mint and used as well as attractive First Day Covers. Recent issues include many additions for your thematic collections such as our latest railway set and souvenir sheet. Special exhibition cancellation available.

SIMON ANDREWS - THE CECIL COURT STAMP SHOP - STAND 148

Simon Andrews of the Cecil Court Stamp Shop is a dealer in fine and rare stamps and covers of Great Britain, this stock is varied and often concentrates on the more unusual items. He produces retail sales brochures 4 times a year and holds postal history auctions. He also buys and sells collections and has a large stock of all world and Commonwealth album pages to browse through.

THE BENHAM GROUP - STAND 96

Benham will be showing their superb range of luxury 'Silk' First Day Covers and thematic covers for Cricket, Railways, Royalty, Flight, Cats etc. Also rare early First Day Covers and a wide range of cover albums with many on special offer for the show.

GRAHAM BOWDEN - STAND 13

Great Britain 1840-1994; regionals; Jersey; Guernsey; Alderney; Isle of Man. Price List available Free on request, mint and used commemorative and definitive stamps; postal history; First Day Covers; presentation packs; year books/packs; booklets; postage dues; postcards. Personal attention, quality and service assured. Occasional British Commonwealth/Foreign items.

BRIDGER & KAY (GUERNSEY LTD) - STAND 16

Postage Stamp Dealers – Auctioneers and Publishers of catalogues and handbooks – e.g. The Commonwealth Stamp Catalogues since 1966. A stock of British Commonwealth issued is available. Also private treaty collections of British and foreign stamps – we will be pleased to discuss collector's interests at the exhibition. We also stock handbooks on philatelic subjects. Established in London since 1897.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY - STAND 14

The British Library Philatelic Collections are the National Philatelic Collections of the United Kingdom. They are estimated at over eight million items and cover all countries and periods. A free information leaflet is available.

BRITISH THEMATIC ASSOCIATION - STAND 10

The British Thematic Association encourages members to build stamp collections based on a theme, a story or an idea rather than by country. 'Themescene' is published quarterly, Auctions held twice a year and a library is kept. Membership details from Ian Paton, 15 Humberside Road, Cambridge, CB4 1JD.

CANDLISH MCCLEERY LTD- STAND 13

Great Britain Stamps 1840-1980 including essays, colour trials, proofs, shades, controls, coils, imperforates, missing colours, and booklets. Advice given on King George V and all stitched booklets. Valuations can be arranged. Free lists.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY -- FEATURE STAND 10

The Children's Society, one of the foremost childcare charities in this country, was founded in 1881 as a response to homelessness among children in our capital. Today, work covers over 100 projects like family centres in deprived areas to safe houses offering refuge and advice to young runaways. Visit our stand for a rare opportunity to remember STAMP '95.

COLLECTORS FORUM OF ROMFORD - STAND 64

We stock Great Britain all reigns, Victorian to decimal, Better FDCs, Booklets, Packs, Cards etc. Post 1900 Commonwealth, Thematics, Good European and World, plus numerous collections for clearance. All collectables dealt in, including stamp related, coins, antiques, cigarette cards, watches, clocks, banknotes, militaria, medals, Nazi, daggers etc.

COMPANY COMPENDIA INC. - STAND 12

We will be exhibiting screen savers based on postage stamps from around the world which serve two major purposes: to avoid phospher burn caused by static images on a computer screen and to conceal sensitive information left on a screen. Also we will show can art based on postage stamps.

CROWN AGENTS STAMP BUREAU - STAND 17

The Crown Agents Stamp Bureau provides a full range of philatelic security printing and marketing services to client governments. A full range of current mint new issues and philatelic products from the following Postal Administrations will be available at stand 170: Aland Christmas Island Pitcairn Islands Ascension Island Falkland Islands St Helena Australia Fiji St Kitts Australian Antarctic Territory Gibraltar St Lucia Jamaica Samoa Bahamas Kenya Seychelles Barbados Kiribati Solomon Islands Belize Liberia South Georgia and the South Sandwich Is. Bermuda Malawi Botswana Malaysia Sri Lanka British Antarctic Territory Mauritius Swaziland Montserrat Tokelau British Indian Ocean Territory Nauru Trinidad & Tobago Nigeria Tristan da Cunha Brunei Norfolk Island Vanuatu Cayman Islands Papua New Guinea Zambia.

DAVO - STAND 74

Celebrating their 50th Anniversary during 1995, DAVO are widely renowned for their superb range of Luxury One Country Hingless Albums. These are handsomely bound in navy blue leatherette with a space for each stamp and crystal-clear protective mounts already in place. The luxury albums are ideal for the collector who wants to give his collection a touch of class. Albums are also available in the economically priced standard style with woven navy canvas binder and cartridge pages. DAVO will be publishing their new 1994 range of album supplements on the first day of Stamp '95 and they will be available to customers at the show. A wide range of other DAVO products and accessories will also be on display.

JOHN M DEERING - STAND 11

Fine modern GB, especially decimal machin definitives: range includes regionals, greetings, high values, coils, plate/cylinder/warrant blocks, FDCs vending and retail booklets, errors, varieties.

DENMARK POSTAL PHILATELIC CENTRE - STAND 18

Visit us to see our range of stamps issued from 1992 until April 1995. Also on show we have a variety of Booklets, Souvenir sets, Postcards and Year sets from 1991 to 1994.

WOLFANGO DE SOUZA - STAND 11

For over thirty years we have been supplying collectors and dealers around the world with philatelic material from western Europe. We also specialise in world-wide thematics especially Papal visits and Vatican city. If you cannot see us at stand 11 please write or phone for our price list.

DEUTSCHE BUNDESPOST, GERMAN POST OFFICE HARRY ALLEN - STAND 144

Come and visit our sales booth where you can see all the latest new issues direct from Germany. In addition to single stamps, our sought after complete sheetlets are available for sale, also many attractive thematics available.

EMBASSY PHILATELISTS - STAND 78

Dealers in Great Britain 1840-1950 from major rarities to inexpensive items. We produce five retail and five auction brochures a year and are always looking for good quality and rare items or collections for sale. Come and see Barry Fitzgerald today for the best price.

THE EXHIBITION STUDY GROUP - FEATURE STAND 5C

The group was founded in 1981 and sees as its aims, the recording of information on exhibitions from 1851 Crystal Palace onwards. Membership now stands at 80 and is £8 a year (£13 for those outside Britain) and a quarterly Newsletter is published. We hold our annual Convention near an Exhibition site each September. Membership details can be obtained from Bill Tonkin. 23 Bramley Way, West Wickham, Kent, BR4 9NT. (Tel: 0181 777 8861)

FAROES POSTAL ADMINISTRATION - STAND 16

We have some very beautiful stamps, booklets, yearpacks, yearbooks and telephone cards. Our latest Europa and Nordic issues on sale from April 10 will be available at the exhibition.

FINLAND POST - STAND 174

Come to our Stand No. 174 and you will discover the beautiful stamps of Finland, including the first hologram booklet ever issued in the world. We will be happy to show you our products and answer your questions. We are waiting for you.

STEVEN SCOTT

JUST COME THROUGH THE MAIN DOOR
~ WE'RE AT STAND 24 ~

NEW TO STAMP COLLECTING? LOOKING FOR A NAME THAT YOU CAN TRUST? LOOK NO FURTHER!! WE SPECIALISE IN BRITISH ISSUES FROM 1912–1995. THE ITEMS BELOW ARE A TINY RANDOM SELECTION FROM STOCK. IF YOU CAN'T GET THROUGH THE CROWD TO OUR STAND (YOU THINK WE ARE JOKING??) THESE SPECIAL OFFERS ARE ALL AVAILABLE BY POST – OUR EFFICIENCY WILL ASTOUND YOU!!

140 SPECIAL OFFERS – FROM STAND 24 OR BY POST/FAX/PHONE

COMMEMORATIVE YEAR SETS (ALL U/M)

W1	1924-51 12 sets (No PUC £1)	£85
W2	1962-3 PHOS 7 sets	£95
W3	1981 8 sets	£6.70
W4	1987 8 sets	£12.50
W5	1989 8 sets plus m/s	£20.00

QE2 FIRST DAY COVERS

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ALL ARE FINE ILLUSTRATED EXAMPLES

W6	1961 CEPT	£1.50
W7	1969 2/6, 5,10, £1	£7.50
W8	1970 10p,20p,50p	£2.95
W9	1971 Any Commem FDC	£1.00
W10	1972 ½p Side Band Left Pane	£14.95
W11	1976 Any Commem FDC	£0.75
W11b	1977 50p, £1, 2, 5 (2.2.77)	£7.50
W12	1978 Any Commem FDC	£0.75
W13	1979 Any Commem FDC	£0.75
W14	1980 Any Commem FDC	£0.75
W15	1980 or 1983 Xmas Book each	£4.95

COMMEM PRES PACKS

W16	1964 Shakespeare (the 1st!)	£5.75
W17	1966 Westminster Abbey Pres. Pack	£10.00
W18	Any 1976 Commem Pres. Pack	£1.25
W19	Any 1978 Commem Pres. Pack	£0.80
W20	Any 1979 Commem Pres. Pack	£0.80
W21	Any 1980 Commem Pres. Pack	£1.00
W22	Any 1981 Commem Pres. Pack	£1.30
W23	Any 1987 Commem Pres. Pack	£2.10
W24	Any 1988 Commem Pres. Pack	£2.10

WE STOCK ALL PRESENTATION PACKS

PHQS ALL FINE MINT

W25	1975 Architecture (3v)	£4.50
W26	1976 Sailing (1v)	£2.95
W27	1976 Reformers (1v)	£2.50
W28	1976 Independence (1v)	£1.95
W29	1976 Culture (4v)	£7.95
W30	1976 Caxton Printing (4v)	£4.95
W31	1977 Racket Sports (4v)	£3.95
W32	1977 Chemistry (4v)	£3.50
W33	1977 Wildlife (5v)	£2.50
W34	1978 Any Set	£1.00

WE STOCK ALL PHQS – SEE OUR FULL LIST

YEARBOOKS

W35	1984 Edition	£49.50	W40	1989 Edition	£33.00
W36	1985 Edition	£49.50	W41	1990 Edition	£30.00
W37	1986 Edition	£49.50	W42	1991 Edition	£28.00
W38	1987 Edition	£30.00	W43	1992 Edition	£28.00
W39	1988 Edition	£30.00	W44	1993 Edition	£26.00

PRESTIGE BOOKLETS

W45	1969 Cook	£6.00	W53	1987 PAO	£11.50
W46	1972 Wedgewood	£25.00	W54	1988 Financial Times	£13.50
W47	1980 Wedgewood	£4.50	W55	1989 Scots	£12.50
W48	1982 Gibbons	£7.00	W56	1990 London Life	£12.50
W49	1983 Royal Mint	£7.00	W57	1991 Agatha Christie	£11.00
W50	1984 Heritage	£12.50	W58	1992 Wales	£9.95
W51	1985 Times	£11.00	W59	1993 Tolkien	£9.95
W52	1986 British Rail	£15.00	W60	1993 Beatrix Potter	£9.95

COLLECTORS & YEARPACKS

W61	1968 Gift Pack	£4.70	W71	1977 Collectors Pack	£5.50
W62	1968 Collectors Pack	£4.50	W72	1978 Collectors Pack	£5.50
W63	1969 Collectors Pack	£15.50	W73	1979 Collectors Pack	£6.95
W64	1970 Collectors Pack	£19.50	W74	1980 Collectors Pack	£9.95
W65	1971 Collectors Pack	£23.50	W75	1981 Collectors Pack	£15.00
W66	1972 Collectors Pack	£24.95	W76	1982 Collectors Pack	£19.50
W67	1973 Collectors Pack	£19.95	W77	1983 Collectors Pack	£29.50
W68	1974 Collectors Pack	£6.95	W78	1984 Collectors Pack	£29.50
W69	1975 Collectors Pack	£5.95	W79	1985 Collectors Pack	£29.50
W70	1976 Collectors Pack	£8.20	W80	1986 Collectors Pack	£27.50
			W81	1987 Collectors Pack	£26.50
			W82	1988 Collectors Pack	£25.00
			W83	1989 Collectors Pack	£24.50
			W84	1990 Collectors Pack	£24.50
			W85	1991 Collectors Pack	£24.50

POSTAGE DUES U/M

W86	1951 - SG35/9 - (5v)	£29.95
W87	1959 - SG55/68 - (13v)	39.50
W88	1968 - SG69/76 - (8v)	£9.00
W89	1970 - SG77/89 - (15v)	£20.00
W90	1982 - SG90/102 - (13v)	£12.50
W91	1994 - SG103/111 (9v) USED	£7.00

DEFINITIVES ALL U/M

W92	1957 Graphite (SG 561/6)	£6.75
W93	1958 Crowns (SG 570/86)	£4.00
W94	1959 Phos. Graphite (SG 599/609)	£48.50
W95	1960 Crowns Phos (SG 610/18a)	£3.50
W96	1963 Castles - Wmk (SG 595/8a)	£7.50
W97	1967 Machins (16v) ½d - 1/9	£1.25
W98	1967 No Wmk Castles 2/6 - £1	£6.50
W99	1967 Machin High Vals 2/6/£1	£7.50
W100	1971 ½p LEFT BAND - SPACEFILLER	£9.95
W101	1971 1p RIGHT BAND JUST	£1.50
W102	1983/7 1.30, 1.33, 1.41, 1.50, 1.60	£17.50
W103	1984 Framas (34v) Full Set	£9.95
W104	1988 Castles £1 - £5 (4v) Fine Used	£2.50
W105	1992 Castles £1 - £5 (4v) Fine Used	£2.50
W106	1993 £10 Britannia - Fine Used	£4.95
W107	£10 As Above - Slight Seconds	£2.50

STITCHED BOOKLETS/PERFS AS THEY COME

Illustrated Cover Series 1968-1975

W108	4/6 Ships (Set of 14) LP46/59	£21.95
W109	5/- Homes (Set of 13) HP26/38	£14.50
W110	6/- Birds (Set of 18) QP38/55	£24.00
W111	10/- Explorers (Set of 9) SP4/12	£22.50
W112	10p Pillar Boxes (Set of 21) DN46/66	£35.00
W113	10p Uniforms (Set of 9) DN67/75	£7.00
W114	25p Booklets (Set of 14) DH39/52	£55.00
W115	30p Booklets (inc. Birds) Set/20 DQ56/74	£55.00
W116	50p Booklets (inc. Flowers) Set of 14 DT1/14	£65.00

We stock earlier stitched booklets.

UNUSUAL MACHIN ERRORS

W118	1971 1p Crimson Missing Phosphor	£1.50
W119	1971 3p Ultramarine Missing Phosphor	£1.75
W120	1971 4p Ochre – Missing Phosphor	£19.50
W121	1971 6p Emerald – Uncoated Paper	£6.95
W122	1971 9p Broad Band Right	£1.50
W123	1971 14p Deep Blue – Missing Phosphor	£3.50
W124	1991/95 19p Orange Red – Missing Phosphor	£2.50
W125	1971/95 22p Orange Red – Missing Phosphor	£12.50

JUST A SMALL SELECTION FROM STOCK

CHANNEL ISLANDS

W126	1941 Guernsey Blue Paper ½d and 1d	£16.00
W127	1969 Guernsey ½d to £1 (15 vals)	£19.50
W128	1970 Guernsey Agricultrure	£9.95
W129	1969 Jersey ½d - £1 (15 vals)	£19.50
W130	1970 Jersey Battle of Flowers	£9.95
W131	1971 Jersey Wildlife	£9.95

Most Channel islands & IOM Stock can be found in our full list

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W132	1963 3 x ½d, 2½d Chalky Pane SG 570k £7.50	£2.50
W134	1966 6d Hastings Inv. Wmk. SG 711wi	£16.50
W135	1968 4d Bridges Printed gum side SG 763a	£13.95
W136	1975 8p Sailing - Black Omitted SG 981a	£29.50
W137	1985, Scotland 23p 2 Bands SG8	£7.50
W138	1989 Archaeology Miniature sheet	£3.50
W138a	1990 1d Black Miniature sheet	£3.00
W139	1993 24p Postal Forgery	£14.50
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FOLKESTONE STAMPS -- STAND 60

Please ask for our 16-page magazine with comprehensive lists of France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Great Britain, Channel Islands, IOM and other Western Europe and Commonwealth countries.

FRIENDS OF THE N.P.M -- STAND 48

The Association of Friends of the National Postal Museum, founded in 1985, was formed with the objects of promoting and encouraging knowledge of, and interest in the activities and work of the Museum, and to support the Museum in establishing and maintaining lectures, displays and exhibitions. It has 550 members world-wide.

GIBBONS STAMP MONTHLY - STAND 72

Following a period of exceptional growth, Gibbons Stamp Monthly is now the UK's biggest selling magazine for stamp collectors. Established in 1890, it carries substantially more editorial than other titles and includes the monthly supplement to the famous Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. Special offers are available on extended subscriptions at Stamp '95.

STANLEY GIBBONS AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND - STAND 22

New Issues of Tokelau, New Zealand and Australian States stamps, Cancellations and postal history, also postal stationary of Victoria and various other selected world stamps.

GREECE POST OFFICE HARRY ALLEN -- STAND 14

Come and visit our sales booth where you can see all the latest new issues direct from Athens. Mint and used issues available as well as attractive First Day Covers including many additions for your thematic collections.

GREENLAND POSTAL ADMINISTRATION - STAND 16

We have a special exhibition cancellation and you can experience a touch of Greenland through our beautiful stamps. Come and see our latest 'Nordic' issue on the theme of tourism which went on sale on 20 April. Greenland stamps are not only single-stamp-issues but also special issues.

H & B PHILATELISTS LIMITED - STAND 16

We are Great Britain Specialists in stamps and postal history covering the period pre-stamp to 1952 (no booklets or Machins). We particularly specialise in all aspects of Queen Victoria including 1d blacks, 1d reds, 2d blues, surface printed (plates/letterings/varieties/imprimaturs/cancellations/covers/ telegraphs/abnormals/unusual destinations/Rarities/etc.)

MARK R HARVEY - STAND 16

Will have available selections from his wide-ranging stock of GB and Commonwealth (QV to QE II) with emphasis on fine quality rare stamps, errors, proofs, covers and specialist material. All enquiries welcomed. Lists available on request.

P & N HAWORTH - STAND 11

Postage stamps 1840 – 1995. We stock every country in the world – over 500 stock-books either by country or by theme, mint, used and First Day Covers together with varieties and postal stationary. Come and Have a look! – If we haven't got it you have a search on your hands.

HENDON STAMP COMPANY - STAND 90

We specialise in GB King Edward VII including a certification service for Edward VII only. We deal in all aspects of GB, 1840 to date, including booklets, packs and FDCs. We hold good stocks of Commonwealth and foreign, with strength in Israel. Free GB price lists available. GB wanted, please offer.

MIKE HOLT - STAND 11

Great Britain 1840 to date. A fine selected range of most aspects of GB is available for inspection. Specialists in the Machin issues (also commemoratives) – New issue service, errors, varieties, booklets etc.

HOUSE OF ANTIQUITY - STAND 40

On Sale: A fine selection of philatelic literature, ephemera. maps, all world postal history, Aviation, Postcards, Postal History, Kiloware mixtures, Auctioneers, Publishers valuations for probate.

HONG KONG POST OFFICE - STAND 19

Current and new Hong Kong issues. Special souvenir cover commemorating Stamp '95. Open a Mail Order Service Account and get a souvenir.

ICELAND POSTAL ADMINISTRATION - STAND 16

We have a special Exhibition cancellation, beautiful souvenir sheets, mint sets and singles, Yearpacks, telephone cards – a wide variety of high quality philatelic material.

ISRAEL HARRY ALLEN - STAND 16

Come and visit our sales booth where you can see all the latest new issues direct from Tel Aviv. Mint and used issues available as well as attractive First Day Covers. Many popular thematic issues also available, including our recent musicians issue featuring Leonard Bernstein, amongst others.

JERSEY, GUERNSEY & THE ISLE OF MAN - STANDS 200,202

Individual in character but with much in common, the three islands share a stand here. The Isle of Man's recent issues celebrate the centenary of the Snaefell Mountain Railway and also feature five traction engines in Island settings. Jersey's set of Camellia stamps are colourful and detailed, featuring five surprisingly different varieties of this exquisite flower. The island recently hosted the International Camellia Society's biennial congress. From Guernsey we have greetings stamps. A delightful set shows facets of the islands in the form of welcoming faces, with smiles drawn in the sand, noses made of whelk shells, tomatoes for eyes and so on. From neighbouring Alderney comes the latest addition to the acclaimed flora and fauna definitive set. These are just the highlights; all three administrations have much more for the stamp enthusiast, including all current issues plus albums, binders etc.

KOREA STAMP CORPORATION - STAND 17

Come and see stamps of Korea from 1946 to 1985. All thematics, mint, First Day Covers, Booklets and postal stationery.

LAMONBY & ALLEN -- STAND 34

Lamonby & Allen, major retailers in Great Britain postage stamps, excellent varied stocks of early issues. Key high values and the classics. Value collections accumulations as well as superb single items. The large stock we carry should have something to tempt.

TONY LESTER AUCTIONS - STAND 15

Tony Lester Auctions will have lots from their June 3rd sale on view, where free catalogues can be obtained. They also offer a free valuation service for collectors.

LIGHTHOUSE PUBLICATIONS (UK) - STAND 2

UK agent for Lighthouse, pre-printed hingeless one country albums, stock books, mounts, Vario stock sheets, and all associated accessories. New products include albums for specialised GB definitives 1971-1993, early Falklands issues 1878-1952, and Thailand issues 1947-1993.

GRAHAME W MANN - STAND 38

Grahame W Mann and BB Stamps both trade exclusively in the issues of Great Britain, specialising in the issues of Queen Victoria, but including modern with FDCs and presentation packs.

ROBERT MURRAY, EDINBURGH - STAND 11

Robert Murray is Scotland's best stocked and most popular Stamp Shop. As general, good-old-fashioned dealers we stock (or at least try to stock) everything – all countries, all periods, from the commonest to the scarcest. Our well-filled Stamp '95 stand will be a miniature version of our well-filled shop.

STEPHEN MURRAY - STAND 86

GB Postal History – Large county sections, including civil war and early letters, campaign letters and envelopes. Commonwealth and world Postal History, Ephemera – Billheads, Documents etc.

NORFOLK STAMP COMPANY LTD -- STAND 12

For all your stamps, postal history and accessories. New Shop 7 Central Arcade Saffron Walden Tel: 01799 520255 Bristol Stamp Co. 269 Gloucester Road Bristol BS7 HNY Tel: 0117 94 24299 Suffolk Stamp Co. 46a Upper Orwell Street Ipswich Suffolk CB4 1HR Tel: 01473 287755

NORWAY POST OFFICE - STAND 12

Norway Post is offering an exhibition card and a special cancellation celebrating STAMP '95. All our stock is available, including products from our famous Olympic programme. Everyone that orders a subscription to Norwegian stamps during STAMP '95 will receive a special gift free of charge.

PARKSTONE PHILATELICS - STAND 76

Parkstone Philatelics will have a section of their display cabinet devoted to 1939-48 square high values for GB and overprints as depicted by Gerry Bater's articles in Gibbons Stamp Monthly. Also on display will be selections of keyplates and varieties of KGVI and QEII up to 1965.

IAN PERRY - STAND 10

Specialised Australia and New Zealand together with singles and collections of Great Britain, Commonwealth and all world. Also Auction unsolds and viewing.

THE PHILATELIC EXPORTER - STAND 50

The Philatelic Exporter – 'The World's Greatest Stamp Trade Journal' – celebrates 50 years with a combined 50th Anniversary/Stamp '95 special issue. Also hot off the press – for collectors and dealers – the indispensable 1995 'International Stamp Dealers Directory'. Worldwide kiloware packets, philatelic magazines and newspapers, books, old catalogues and posters.

PREMIER PHILATELIC CO. - STAND 32

Empire and Foreign Dealers. We offer singles, sets, pages, mixed lots, collections & Postal History from all over the world, attractively priced. We also run an all world Postal Auction. Visit our shop – write, fax or phone for your catalogue.

POSTAL HISTORY SALES -- STAND 10

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PPT POST PHILATELIA - STAND 14

Enter the exciting world of Dutch stamps. Collect stamps from the Netherlands and discover all about it's flora and fauna, environment, architecture, art and history. These miniature works of art will take you on a journey you will never forget.

THE HOUSE OF QUESTA - STAND 10

One of the world's leading stamp printers has also built an impressive list of commercial clients since forming in 1966. Although stamps are our major interest, related activities include first day covers and postcards and also confidential, commercial material and promotional literature. Strict security systems and excellent warehousing enable us to offer our clients – from Royal Mail and overseas Postal Administrations to international PLCs – precisely what they want when they want it. As part of John Waddington PLC we enjoy the stability and expansion that being part of such a Group offers.

ROWLAND HILL STAMPS - STAND 15

British Commonwealth of all reign with particular emphasis on KGVI and QEII. Specialist stocks of Australia, New Zealand, KGVI, thematics and good range of album leaves.

ROYAL MAIL - STAND 130

There's something for all ages at the Royal Mail stand. Children will find the UK's biggest stamp club – the Royal Mail Collector's Club – offering a warm welcome to one and all, with special club offers to new and existing members. Adults will find all the latest stamp issues and much more, available from the British Philatelic Bureau.

RUSHSTAMPS (RETAIL) LTD - STAND 8C

Free price lists, GB and worldwide on request – errors and varieties bought and sold, thematics, presentation packs, booklets, FDCs etc. All GB from 1840 to date – compare our prices and save! We also wish to buy. Top prices paid.

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Visit the Safe stand for advice and information on all Safe album products and more! Along with a permanent demonstration of the world's first electronic watermark detector, the amazing 'Perfotronic' for measuring perforations and advice on how to detect phosphor using UV lamps. Also starter albums, albums for stamps first day covers and phonecards, stockbooks, Michel catalogues, etc, etc.

MALCOLM SPREI, M & S STAMPS - STAND 12

Great Britain dealers 1840-1936. We cater for the beginner right through to exhibitor, supplying basic stamps through to major rarities. We offer a quick and reliable mail order service from our monthly catalogues and also run a Postal Auction. Visit our shop, write, fax or phone for your catalogue.

STANLEY GIBBONS LIMITED -- STAND 6C

Our stand will be transformed into a collectors paradise with the worlds most extensive range of catalogues, albums and accessories to suit collectors of all ages. We will also have an incredible range of stamp pages, album supplements, popular titles from our collectors bookshelf and our unique range of giftware on show. Our dedicated team of helpful staff will also be on hand to assist you.

STANLEY GIBBONS MAIL ORDER - STAND 6C

Irresistibly simple, exceptionally quick and reassuringly reliable Stanley Gibbons Mail Order service enables you to build your collection from the comfort of your own home. Thousands of collectors already receive our regular 'one country' and 'thematic' brochures. Packed full of popular material with illustrations, prices and a useful checklist. Our full range of brochures will be available at the show and our team of international experts ready to assist.

STANLEY GIBBONS SPECIALISED SERVICE - STAND 6

For the collector seeking specialised and rare GB, Commonwealth and Foreign material, we offer a dedicated service and extensive high quality stocks. By maintaining a detailed and up to date register of your collecting interests we are able to provide you with regular lists and colour brochures featuring material that will directly interest you. To join our specialist register pick up an application form on our stand.

STEVEN SCOTT (UK) - STAND 24

Our world-wide reputation is as leading suppliers of all aspects of British, Channel Island and Isle of Man stamps and FDC's since 1912 (Commonwealth and Postal History as well!). We buy and sell at genuinely competitive price levels. Discover the qualities that have made us into the UK's fastest expanding dealership.

STAMP & COIN MART -- STAND 10

Since its launch in 1986, Stamp & Coin Mart has gradually established for itself a niche in the marketplace. Now with its new look, combined with interesting and informative articles, plus comprehensive New Issues section, it's set to make further inroads into the marketplace. A must for the collector, hobbyist and newcomer to philately.

STAMP MAGAZINE -- STAND 44

Stamp Magazine, established for over 60 years, is Britain's leading philatelic publication, with interesting and informative features – including stamp studies, postal history, thematics, Cinderellas and postcards – every month, making extensive use of colour. Note our eye-catching layouts, printed on quality paper, perfect for keeping for future reference.

SWEDEN POST HARRY ALLEN - STAND 142

Come and visit our sales booth where you can see all the latest new issues direct from Stockholm. Mint and used issues available as well as attractive First Day Covers including many additions for your thematic collections. Special exhibition cancellation available.

MARTIN TOWNSEND - STAND 92

Martin Townsend, Great Britain stamps and Proofs, specimens, colour trials, etc, Great Britain, Postal History including Mulreadys, ship letters, counties, Channel Islands etc. Exhibition quality material available and much more.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE HARRY ALLEN - STAND 143

The latest from the USA comes to Britain! Choose from our extensive range of popular thematic issues as well as updating your US collection. Don't miss your chance to enter our fabulous Marilyn Monroe competition!

URCH HARRIS - STAND 182

Constantly developed over the last 30 years, Urch Harris 'All World' New Issues Service combines the widest choice of countries, themes and formats with a reliable individual service that helps you develop and manage your collection from the comfort of your own home. For a free welcome pack and copy of our exclusive new issues magazine please visit us on stand 182. Urch Harris is a division of Stanley Gibbons.

VALELINK LTD - STAND 36

We stock a general range of stamps of most countries up to 1970 and an extensive range of all aspects of Malta philately in our shop. We also sell coins, banknotes, railways, dinky toys, cigarette cards, lead soldiers etc.

ROLF WEGGLER - STAND 84

We can offer you a fine selection of Great Britain and Commonwealth, Europe plus Asia and particularly Switzerland. We buy and sell better stamps, postal history, proofs and lots. Please let us welcome you at stand No 84.

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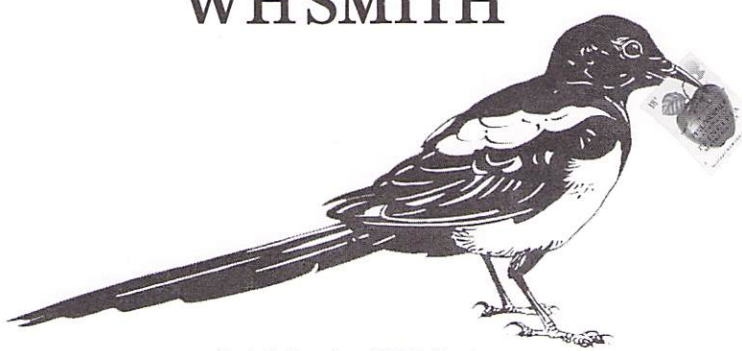

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HUNDREDS OF PRIZES TO BE WON AT STAMP '95

Three major competitions will be running throughout Stamp '95 with hundreds of spectacular prizes to be won.

STAMP '95 FREE PRIZE DRAW

On registration every visitor automatically qualifies for the Stamp'95 Free Prize Draw with over 100 prizes up for grabs. Winners will be announced 22nd June 1995. Full terms and conditions are available from the visitor registration desk.

1st Prize (1 winner)

A holiday for two to Singapore '95 international stamp exhibition which takes place between 1st - 10th September.

2nd Prizes (2 winners)

Superb 1925 Wembley Empire Exhibition Commemorative set.

3rd Prizes (3 winners)

Prinz System Stamp Album plus Luxury Lighthouse Stockbook.

4th Prizes (5 winners)

Stanley Gibbons 1995 GB Concise Stamp Catalogue.

5th Prizes (10 winners)

Morley Bright Watermark Detector.

6th Prizes (20 winners)

Stanley Gibbons Stamp '95 Commemorative Model 'T' Van.

7th Prizes (60 winners)

Royal Mail 'National Trust' Issue Presentation Pack.

DESIGN-A-STAMP COMPETITION

For junior visitors there's a chance to win a whole range of prizes by producing a design on the theme of 'Wildlife' whilst at the show, either conventionally by hand drawn methods or by the latest computeraided design technology. Winners will be announced 22nd June 1995. Full rules and regulations are available on stand F10.

There are three categories of entry; 5 to 9 years, 10 to 13 years and 14 to 16 years. The top 3 designs in each category will receive some very special prizes.

1st Prizes (3 winners)

Portable CD player, 1994 Yearbook and Letterbox from the Royal Mail.

A fine Penny Black stamp mounted in a special presentation wallet, Stamp Starter Pack and Stamp '95 model 'T' Van from Stanley Gibbons.

Artists materials from WH Smith.

In addition the winners will visit stamp printers The House of Questa to see their designs being produced.

2nd Prizes (3 winners)

Royal Mail 1994 Yearbook and Letterbox, Stanley Gibbons Stamp Starter Pack and Model 'T' Van plus WH Smith Artists Materials.

3rd Prizes (3 winners)

Royal Mail 1994 Collectors Pack and Letterbox, Stanley Gibbons Transworld Stamp Album and Model 'T' Van plus WH Smith Artists Materials.

All competition entrants will receive a special Wildlife stamp pack.

CHILDREN'S TREASURE HUNT

All younger visitors to Stamp '95 will receive a free 'goody bag' to which further items can be added by taking part in our specially devised Treasure Hunt. Children will be handed an entry form on entrance to the show which takes them around the many international stands picking up clues. On completion the form should be returned to the Royal Mail stand (130) where further free gifts will be awarded to all those who solve the puzzle correctly.

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Classic & Vintage Cars

Issue Date - May 8th 1995

Europa '95 Peace & Freedom

Issue Date - April 28th 1995

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	N41		PRESENTATION PACK @£0.85		
	N91		FIRST DAY COVER @£0.90		
	N40		MINT SHEETLET @£5.00		
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	C41		PRESENTATION PACK @£2.23		
	C91		FIRST DAY COVER @£2.28		
	C43		VE DAY FOLDER & 4 SHEETS @£8.00		
VINTAGE CARS	D31		MINT SET @£1.93		
	D41		PRESENTATION PACK @£2.28		
	D91		FIRST DAY COVER @£2.33		
	D42		MINT SHEET PRES PACK @£1.35		
	D92		MINT SHEET F.D.C. @£1.40		
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STAMP '95 SEMINARS

A carefully prepared programme of expert talks will run each day in a purpose- built 80-seat auditorium equipped with display, demonstration and slide facilities. Commencing on the hour, each Seminar will last up to 40 minutes and places may be booked on a first-come-first-served basis at a special registration desk inside the entrance to the exhibition hall – stand 2.

THURSDAY 27 APRIL

1.00 p.m. BEGINNING A COLLECTION

Lionel Jones – National Postal Museum

This seminar aims to provide some practical advice on basic equipment needed to start both the young and not-so-young on the road to the fascinating hobby of stamp collecting. It will describe the different kinds of postage and other stamps and postal stationery which are out there just waiting to be collected. The talk will also cover the sorting, mounting and displaying of stamps and will advise on where to find information about stamps and where to obtain them.

2.00 p.m. HOW IT ALL STARTED THE LIFE & TIMES OF ROWLAND HILL

Tony Gammons – National Postal Museum

Rowland Hill is probably the best known of the Postal Reformers. This talk will take his life from the early days in the Birmingham area through the development of the Hill family's education system to his proposals for Postal Reform and the introduction of Uniform Penny Postage and the world's first adhesive postage stamp, the Penny Black.

3.00 p.m. STAMP DESIGN & PRINTING PROCESS

Colin Gibson - Technical Director - The House of Questa

The presentation will cover the following aspects of stamp production from design through to despatch: Postage stamp design and considerations, types of origination, conversion to an image suitable for printing, proofing and platemaking, bonded materials, printing by the offset lithographic process, finishing and despatch.

4.00 p.m. THEMATIC COLLECTING

Margaret Morris – British Thematic Assoc.

Her Specialist Theme: Astronomy

The presentation will demonstrate the gradual development of a thematic collection which was first started some 58 years ago as a childhood enthusiasm. Various attempts at writing up the collection have mirrored the changing abilities of the collector and the application of new techniques in presentation. Problem-solving is the name of the game! The joy of seeking out special items is emphasised and some of the surprise "finds" will be displayed.

5.00 p.m. ILLUSTRATED FIRST DAY COVERS

Tony Buckingham Managing Director – Benham

Benham are widely acknowledged for their superb range of luxury 'silk' first day and thematic covers. These widely collected covers present a total picture, linking the stamps, the postmark and cover design to provide a complete art form. Limited quantities are often also signed by a famous personality linked with the theme. Almost all major themes are covered including cricket, railways, royalty, sport and nature amongst those most popular. This seminar will tell the story of how these unique collectors covers came to be, the themes selected past and present and the long and complicated production procedure.

FRIDAY 28 APRIL

12.00 p.m. THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS

David Beech FRPSL Head of Philatelic Collections - The British Library

David Beech will describe the Philatelic Collections at the British Library, setting in context their significance and development and describing the philatelic exhibition, student arrangements, and other services. David Beech joined the British Library Philatelic Collections in 1983 and became Head of that department in 1991.

1.00 p.m. BEGINNING A COLLECTION

Lionel Jones National Postal Museum

This seminar aims to provide some practical advice on basic equipment needed to start both the young and not-so-young on the road to the fascinating hobby of stamp collecting. It will describe the different kinds of postage and other stamps and postal stationery which are out there just waiting to be collected. The talk will also cover the sorting, mounting and displaying of stamps and will advise on where to find information about stamps and where to obtain them.

2.00 p.m. ALL YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SPECIAL STAMPS & MORE

Rosena Robson

Stamp Programme Manager - Royal Mail

Rosena Robson from Royal Mail will tell you about the history of British Special Stamps, why they are special, who chooses the subject and who approves the designs. Whatever age you are, and whether you have been collecting stamps for fifty years or five minutes, come along for a fascinating insight into this world in miniature.

3.00 p.m. STAMP DESIGN & PRINTING PROCESS

Colin Gibson

Technical Director - House of Questa

The presentation will cover the following aspects of stamp production from design through to despatch: Postage stamp design and considerations, types of origination, conversion to an image suitable for printing, proofing and platemaking, bonded materials, printing by the offset lithographic process, finishing process and despatch.

4.00 p.m. THEMATIC COLLECTING

Franceska Rapkin – British Thematic Association

Her Specialist Theme: Olympics

Franceska Rapkin's talk will cover the Olympic Games of 1936. Only eleven stamps were issued for these Games, yet it is possible to build a whole collection on this subject by using all manner of related material, not only stamps, and from many countries throughout the world. The talk will also include discussion on the various ways in which such a collection can be developed.

5.00 p.m. PHILATELIC APPLIANCES THROUGH THE DECADES

Victor Short FRPSL

Victor Short is a well known and entertaining speaker on the history of stamp collecting. His display will include philatelic appliances used by stamp collectors from the 1860's, a stamp album from 1840 and stamp hinge making equipment from the 1940's, together with other unusual and amusing items. His talk is suitable for all ages and even the non-collector.

SATURDAY 29 APRIL

12.00 p.m. THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS

David Beech FRPSL

Head of Philatelic Collections - The British Library

David Beech will describing the Philatelic Collections at the British Library, setting in context their significance and development and describe the philatelic exhibition, student arrangements, and other services. David Beech joined the British Library Philatelic Collections in 1983 and became Head of that department in 1991.

1.00 p.m. BEGINNING A COLLECTION

John Holman – Philatelic Writer

This seminar aims to provide some practical advice on basic equipment needed to start both the young and not-so-young on the road to the fascinating hobby of stamp collecting. It will describe the different kinds of postage and other stamps and postal stationery which are out there just waiting to be collected. The talk will also cover the sorting, mounting and displaying of stamps and will advise on where to find information about stamps and where to obtain them.

2.00 p.m. ALL YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SPECIAL STAMPS & MORE

Rosena Robson

Stamp Programme Manager - Royal Mail

Rosena Robson from Royal Mail will tell you about the history of British Special Stamps, why they are special, who chooses the subject and who approves the designs. Whatever age you are, and whether you have been collecting stamps for fifty years or five minutes, come along for a fascinating insight into this world in miniature.

3.00 p.m. STAMP DESIGN & PRINTING PROCESS

Colin Gibson

Technical Director - The House of Questa

The presentation will cover the following aspects of stamp production from design through to despatch: Postage stamp design and considerations, types of origination, conversion to an image suitable for printing, proofing and platemaking, bonded materials, printing by the offset lithographic process, finishing and despatch.

4.00 p.m.THEMATIC COLLECTING

Jean Alexander - British Thematic Association

Her Specialist Theme: Waterfalls

Choosing a thematic subject is the most important decision anyone can make when they decide to form a thematic collection. The range of possible subjects is enormous and it is only after many years of collecting that one often realises the choice of another subject may have been preferable.

As a collecting theme 'Waterfalls' is a lovely topic. Apart from Holland which is extremely flat, most countries have waterfalls on their rivers. A waterfall collection really becomes an all-world collection. The collection extends from the highest known, the Angel Falls, to the Iguassu Falls - one of the wider waterfalls - and many more in between. It can also cover stamps, booklets, miniature sheets, cancellations and postal stationery.

5.00 p.m. THE FIRST STAMP PRINTERS - PERKINS BACON

Richard Payne FRPSL

This entertaining talk tells the story of the first stamp printers charting how it began, the equipment used and the material printed, not to mention the problems encountered.

SUNDAY 30 APRIL

12.00 p.m. THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS

David Beech FRPSL

Head of Philatelic Collections - The British Library

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2.00 p.m. HOW IT ALL STARTED - THE LIFE & TIMES OF ROWLAND HILL

Tony Gammons

National Postal Museum

Rowland Hill is probably the best known of the Postal Reformers. This talk will take his life from the early days in the Birmingham area through the development of the Hill family's education system to his proposals for Postal Reform and the introduction of Uniform Penny Postage and the world's first adhesive postage stamp, the Penny Black.

3.00 p.m. STAMP DESIGN & PRINTING PROCESS

Colin Gibson Technical Director - The House of Questa

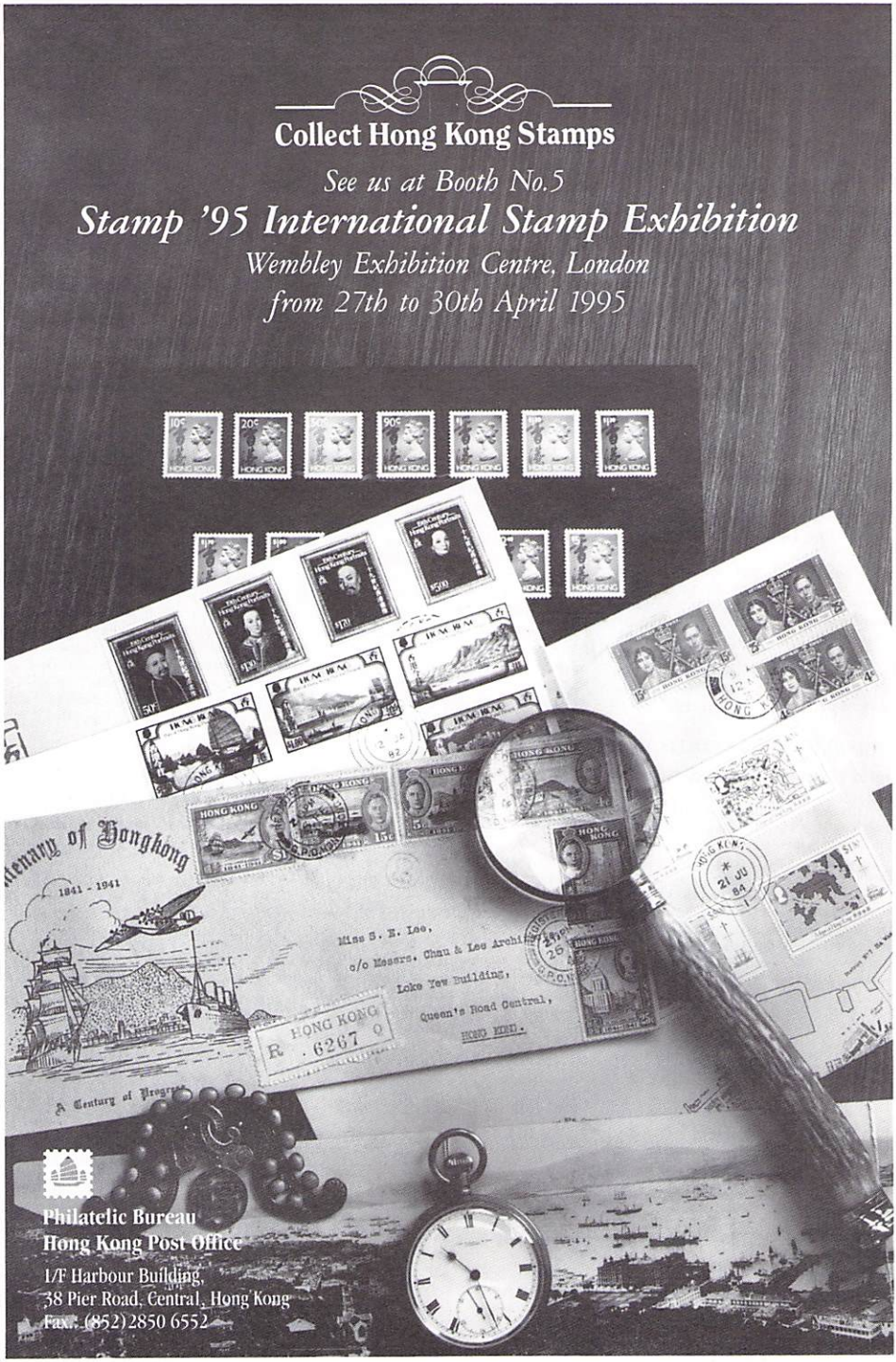
The presentation will cover the following aspects of stamp production from design through to despatch: Postage stamp design and considerations, types of origination, conversion to an image suitable for printing, proofing and platemaking, bonded materials, printing by the offset lighographic process, finishing and despatch.

4.00 p.m. THEMATIC COLLECTING

Graham Winters - British Thematic Association

His Specialist Theme: Golf

The talk, illustrated with slides, begins with a general survey of golf as a thematic subject. It continues to consider a number of questions - what is available to collect? where from? is it expensive? etc. A major part of the seminar concerns information-gathering and writing-up. Finally, exhibiting is mentioned, but the emphasis is very much on collecting for general interest and making it fun.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WEMBLEY 70 YEARS AGO

70 years ago Wembley was home to the magnificent British Empire Exhibition. In celebration of this important anniversary two very special collections are being shown at Stamp '95.

The holding of an exhibition to show the assets of the British Empire was first considered before World War I and, had the war itself not intervened, it might well have taken place at the exhibition site at Shepherd's Bush which had been used since 1908 for various exhibitions and had become known as the 'White City'.

When the idea of such an exhibition was revived in 1920, there was much patriotic feeling, it was decided to find a fresh venue and so the large park at Wembley which had been landscaped by Humphrey Repton as the private grounds of a mansion and latterly owned by the Metropolitan Railway was chosen. Work on the site began soon after the Duke of York laid the foundation stone of the Stadium on 10 January 1922.

POSTAL HISTORY & POSTCARDS

Alan Sabey's collection looks at the postal history of the Exhibition with postmarks and slogans used by participating countries, first day covers and stationery. Further frames contributed by Mr Sabey feature postcards of the original Exhibitions, cinderella labels and the philatelic treatment of sporting events held in the famous stadium itself. It is also expected that ephemera and memorabilia associated with the 1924 and 1925 Exhibitions will be on show, including guides, programmes and mementoes.

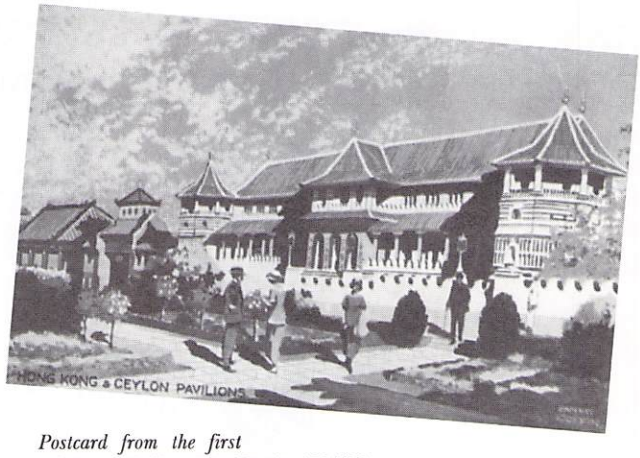
It is interesting to note that a little of the 1924/5 Exhibitions can still be seen (the most obvious survivor being Wembley Stadium itself); other structures still standing include the palace of industry (now a carpet warehouse), the Fiji Pavilion (now part of a factory), the North Station of the 'Never Stop Railway' (a motor repair workshop) and the frontage of the Palace of Arts.

THE 1924 AND 1925 'WEMBLEY' STAMPS

Britain's first commemorative stamps did not appear without a certain amount of 'arm twisting'. The organisers approached the Post Office to issue a set of stamps to publicise the exhibition, as had been done by a number of overseas postal administrations. The Post Office was not enthusiastic but the Government, which was committed to the exhibition, persuaded it to think again.

King George V was also not very keen on the idea, stating that the idea of commemorative stamps was 'very Un-English'. The Post Office, on the other hand, simply did not wish to add to the number of items in stock at its offices up and down the country; a problem which it eventually satisfied by placing items on sale only at the Exhibition itself.

It was not the original intention that stamps would be issued for the occasion at all, the idea being that commemorative items would



Postcard from the first exhibitions held at Wembley in 1924/25, depicting the Hong Kong and Ceylon pavilions.

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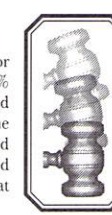

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be restricted to postal stationery, as had been done at the time of the stamp jubilee in 1890.

In the end stamps were included in the programme and a committee was set up to consider the designs, the King having given his opinion that it was a waste of time to put people on the committee who did not know 'anything about stamps or design.'

The work of eight artists was considered but in the end it was the work of Harold Nelson which found favour with both the design committee and the King.

ORIGINAL ARTWORK

Hassan Shaida's incomparable collection of the 1924 and 1925 'Wembleys' includes just about every item of importance outside the Royal and National Postal Museum Collections, including much of Harold Nelson's original artwork. These include two essays in vertical format and the first rough sketch in pencil of the 1d value in the finally accepted 'Lion' design. Further drawings show the development of the design and die proofs and colour trials demonstrate the care and attention which went into ensuring that Britain's first commemoratives came up to the desired standard. In spite of this, it took only three months from inviting the artists to come up with ideas to placing the stamps on sale.

The stamps, which were available in either sheets or coils, were issued on 23 April 1924 and, despite their limited availability, about 1 million are said to have been sold on the first day. The postal stationery; 1d. inland postcards and 1½d. lettercards, envelopes and foreign postcards; were issued on the same day.

SPECTACULAR ERRORS

The Shaida collection includes examples of the stamps on cover and some spectacular errors, including the very rare imperf between stamp and margin varieties and a partial printing on the reverse of the 1924 1½d. stamp due to a paper fold.

The opportunity to view this famous collection should not be missed.

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Access

PTS

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The formation of the Royal Air Force on 1 April 1918 from the joining of Royal Flying Corps and Royal Naval Air Service

1918-1993 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE
$6
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA
PBY-5 No. WB406, WQ Z Of RAF 209 Squadron
26 May 1941
PBY-5 Catalina I Flying Boat of RAF Coastal Command Squadron 209 spots the German Battleship Bismark

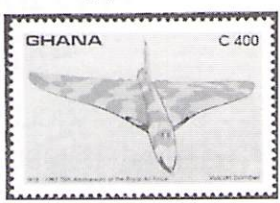
A Fitting Tribute

In 1993 and 1994, eight member states of the British Commonwealth of Nations celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force with a mini-Omnibus issue of sixteen stamps and eight souvenir sheets.

The Free World will long remember the service and supreme sacrifice that the members of the RAF made to protect England and help turn the tide in World War II. But the history of the RAF dates back even to an even earlier time, as it was founded 1 April 1918 in a reorganisation and merging of the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service.

The RAF mini-omnibus spans the 75-year history of the RAF through reproductions of aircraft from the early biplanes of World War I to the modern supersonic jets that continue to carry the distinctive emblem of the Royal Air Force around the globe.

This attractive and exciting mini-omnibus is a lasting tribute to the members of the RAF who have gallantly served us in war and in peacetime. As such, these RAF 75th Anniversary stamps and souvenir sheets will appeal to collectors of the Aircraft theme for many years to come.



These Royal Air Force 75th Anniversary stamps and miniature sheets from Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada Grenadines, St. Vincent and Tanzania, should now be available from your favourite dealer. For further information you may also contact:

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FROM POST BOY TO AIRMAIL

An illustrated display of postal artifacts, ephemera, toys and postal history from the collection of David Harrop

David Harrop collects everything to do with the transport of mail. He began collecting seriously in the early 1980's when, as an administrative officer in the Post Office, he became aware of the amount of material relating to the old GPO which was being thrown away in the 'interests' of modernisation.

He commenced by rescuing items of interest from the scrap heap but soon started augmenting his collection by buying at antiques fairs, junk shops and at auction. He was persuaded to put on a small display of some of his postal paraphernalia at the Great Dorset Steam Fair in 1987 and, contrary to his expectations, it proved to be a resounding success.

Since then his travelling exhibition has been seen up and down the country, with the inevitable result that he has been offered more and more items for his collection, which he admits is now quite out of hand. Storage problems have been somewhat relieved by the fact that permanent displays of material from his collection have been put on at the Crewe Heritage Centre and at the Manchester Transport Museum in Poynton near Stockport while, even if they are not regular visitors to steam fairs and country shows, stamp collectors may well recall admiring some of the highlights of the Harrop collection at Stampex in 1992.

'GEMS' FOR STAMP '95

For his display at Stamp '95 David has selected some of the gems of his collection. The pre-stamp era is represented by a 1582 letter from a firm of Italian merchants, mail coach tokens from the late 18th century and the 1839 Act of Parliament which led to the introduction of postage stamps the following year. Needless to say, those first stamps, the penny black and two pence blue, are also included in the display.

Various modes of mail transportation are represented by toys and models, including a magnificent 4ft model of the famous Cunard liner, the RMS *Queen Mary*, along with a very rare tin-plate toy parcel truck, manufactured by Crawfords Biscuits in the 1920s and a 'Frog' mail plane from the 1930's.

Younger visitors are invited to visit a special children's corner within the display where they may try their skill with pen and ink and sort letters in a vintage sorting frame.

David himself will be on hand throughout the show and will be pleased to discuss his collection with visitors although he says it is not recommended to collect everything as he does 'as you will find that your home will not be big enough'. He would also be interested in talking to visitors who may wish to sell or donate items to his collection.

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The "Williams" ISLE OF MAN collection offers 100's of lots that include outstanding limited edition covers, early postal history, combination covers, prisoner mail, Air mail, Manx railway/local delivery, strike mail, Calf of man stamps/definitives, postage due, booklets, 100's of high quality early postcards with rare cachet/postal cancellation and much,much,more.

A very specialised WORLD WIDE collection includes an outstanding AUSTRIAN section, lovingly compiled by the late "Dr Feiner", covering 1922-1950. Again all stamps POST FRESH MINT*. We have broken this down so that sets and individual stamps can be made available that include "Rotarian congress", "Ski Championships" plus the Superb "Dr Dollifuss" 10s Slate blue. There is also 2 UNISSUED 5g & 12g from the "Anti-Fascist" Exhibition, all POST FRESH MINT; a superb selection of lots. We also have a superb "French Colonies", all POST FRESH MINT in SETS with various overprints. Outstanding!

VIEWING IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

LONDON - 2nd JUNE 1995
"REGENT PALACE HOTEL"
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LEEDS - 3rd JUNE 1995
"HOLIDAY INN"
The Gledhow Rooms, Wellington St, Leeds LSI 4DL

BOURNEMOUTH - 8th & 9th JUNE & am. 10th JUNE
"MICHAEL STAINERS AUCTIONEERS"
St Andrews Hall, Wolverton Road, Boscombe, Bournemouth BH7 6HT

AUCTION STARTS 11am 10TH JUNE
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NB FOR SECURITY REASONS, ADMISSION FOR VIEWING AND ENTRY TO THE AUCTION IS BY CATALOGUE ONLY

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The Exhibition Study Group
STAND 204
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Stanley Gibbons
STAND 6
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THE NATIONAL POSTAL MUSEUM

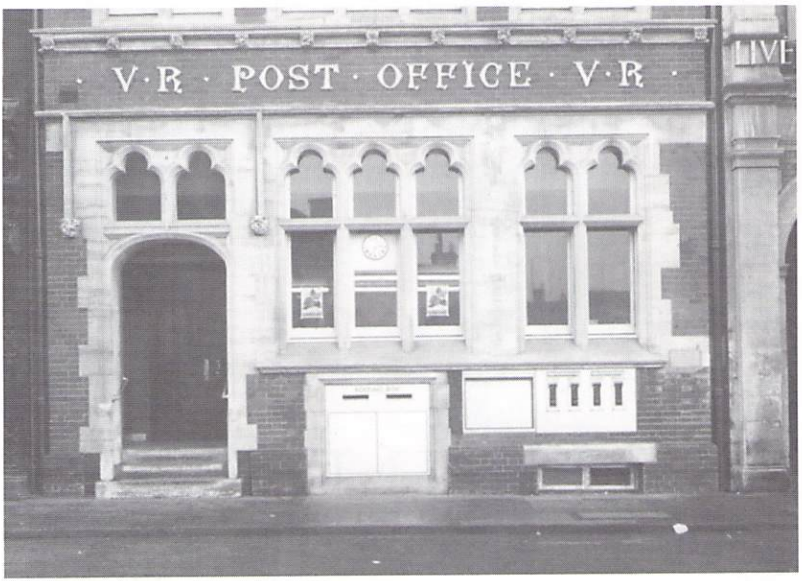
A new exhibition at the NPM demonstrates that the introduction of postage stamps was only one of many reforms introduced by the British Post Office during Queen Victoria's reign.

The National Postal Museum is a haven of fascination located close to St Paul's Cathedral in the City of London. Sited within King Edward Building, one of the Post Office's most attractive edifices, it houses what is arguably the most important philatelic collection in the world. Britain, after all, was the first country to issue adhesive postage stamps, – the world-famous Penny Black. And the introduction of the Uniform Penny Postage and other aspects of postal reform in 1840 laid the foundation not only of the modern British Post Office but also for the development of postal services in many other countries.

A SERVICE-BASED ORGANISATION

The Victorian era was a very important period for the Post Office in this country. Until the introduction of Rowland Hill's reforms in 1840, the Post Office had operated largely as a revenue-raising arm of the Treasury. The National Postal Museum's new major exhibition, 'Victorian Posts', opening on 9 May will show how, during Queen Victoria's reign, the Post Office began to move away from this approach to become a more service-based organisation with a growing social conscience. It was during this period that purpose-built post offices came into being to provide the new 'over-the-counter' services. The exhibition will begin with a display on the life and work of Rowland Hill, the bicentenary of whose birth is being celebrated this year. It then continues with descriptions of some of the vital postal services introduced in the Victorian period. One of the most far-reaching was the Rural Post Revision of 1851-59. This led

Mr Punch trying to persuade a workman to invest in the Post Office Savings Bank rather than the gin shop! Punch *23 February 1861*



Typical Victorian Crown Post Office, Liverpool

to the setting up of new rural postal services and brought a large number of communities into the postal network for the first time. By the time of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897 postal deliveries were being made to every house in the country. Pillar and posting boxes had been set up in towns and villages. Many of these Victorian boxes are still in use, others can be seen on display in the museum. We owe their introduction to no less a person than Anthony Trollope, the famous novelist, who was employed as a Post Office Surveyor.

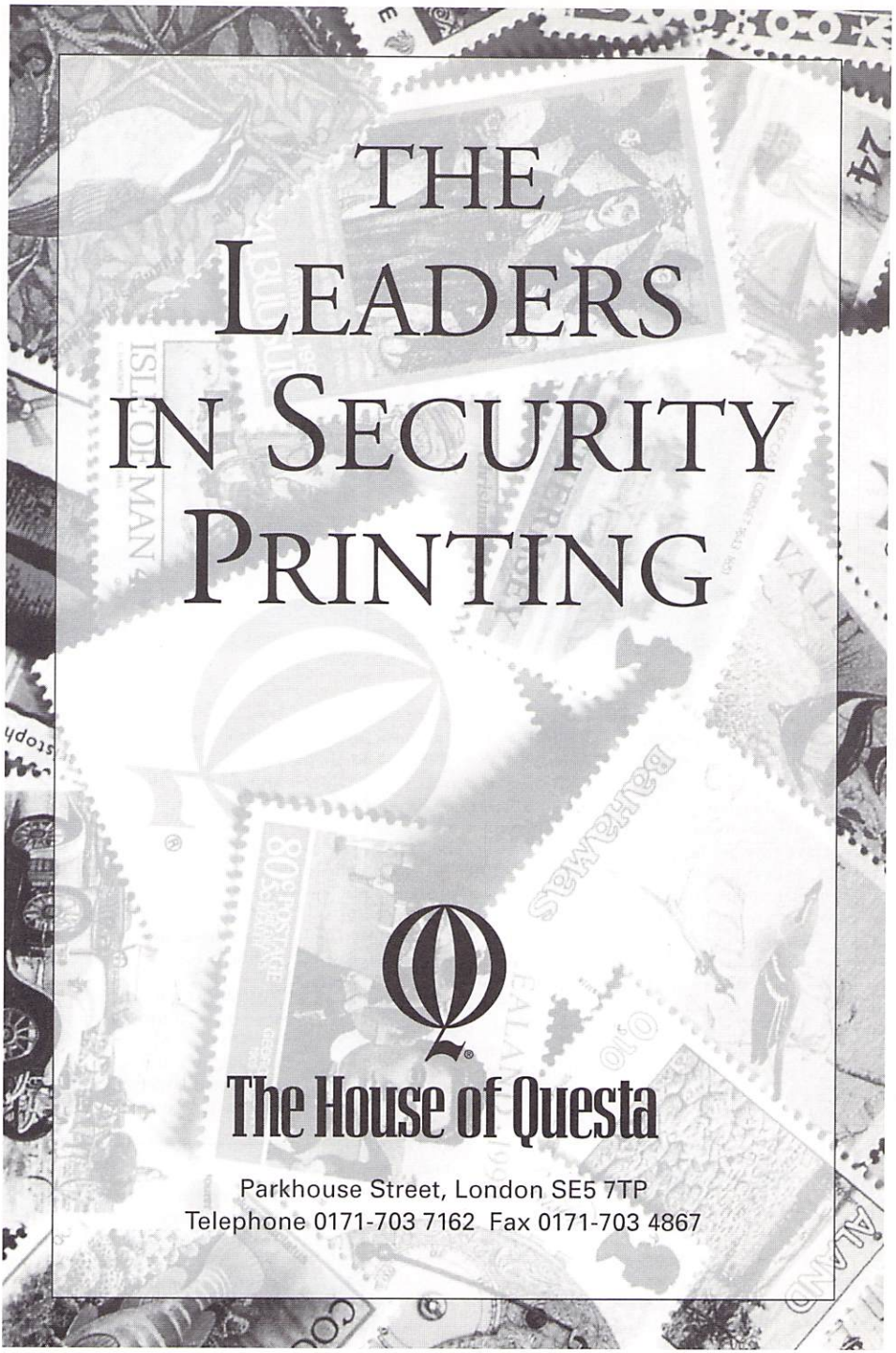
SERVICES WE NOW TAKE FOR GRANTED

The rapid development of railways in the 19th century led to the speedy demise of the mail-coach. The exhibition will look at the postal use of railways, including the introduction of Travelling Post Offices and then feature a range of other important service developments: the introduction of registered post in 1841; the setting up of the Post Office Savings Bank in 1861 which provided a savings facility for the less well-off; the introduction of postal orders in 1881, which enabled people without bank accounts to order and pay for goods through the post; book post, parcel post, express delivery, postcards, and other aspects of postal life that we now take for granted.

As has already been mentioned, one of the important aspects of the early Victorian era was the introduction of postage stamps to prepay postage at a low cost. In the main gallery of the Museum the exhibition will illustrate how the Penny Black came about and how the development of printing methods influenced stamp design during the 19th century. It will also describe the introduction of envelopes as a result of postal reform. Material on show will include some of the Museum's greatest treasures including unique sheets of Penny Blacks and of the later issues, many of which have never been seen in public before.

Visitors to the Museum can also see the Phillips collection of Victorian Stamps of Great Britain, the museum's Stamps of the World collection (from 1879) and various postal objects.

The museum, in King Edward Street, is open 09.30 to 16.30 Monday to Friday. Admission is free. Make sure you visit our stand at Stamp '95.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STAMP DESIGN AND PRODUCTION

Colin Gibson, Technical Director at The House of Questa, traces the stamp production process from initial concept to delivery

To a philatelist the postage stamp holds a mine of information, for the general collector, it may form part of a thematic collection, to the technical collector it may be the variants of production and to the rare stamp collector, an achievement and an investment.

Postage stamps are ultimately a receipt for a service, but have over the years developed into miniature masterpieces of art and design, brightening up what would otherwise be a rather drab label in its very basic form.

Stamps today communicate information by commemorating anniversaries of historic occasions, recognising special events, local activities and developments, fauna and flora, community development and harmony, the list goes on.

However, the important factor is that the postage stamp is a world-wide product and that it performs a valuable function, by its primary purpose assisting in communication and education by its design, as well as giving philatelists many hours of pleasure.

ARTWORK OR COMPUTER DISK

The design of a stamp begins with the selection of a subject, then the commissioning of the design and the eventual acceptance. The next stage is for the artist to prepare the final designs in a suitable form for reproduction. This may be as Flat Coloured Artworks or a set of computer disks, containing the designs in digital form.

The security printer is then responsible for the conversion of the designs into the finished product.

The conversion processes involved in stamp production demand the application of many skills and technologies that exceed those used in the production of commercial printings. These skills are complimented by specialised equipment, complex quality assurance procedures and a very high level of security both within the product and in its control.

COMPUTER RETOUCHING

The initial stage of production involves the reproduction of the original designs into a form that can be duplicated many thousands of times, at the specified size. This process commences with laser scanning systems that electronically separate the image into the four primary colours of yellow, magenta, cyan and black. The digital information of the separations is then transferred to a computer imaging system, where the images can be colour retouched. At this stage the imaging system is also used as a composing or make-up screen to add the typographic elements to the design, the country name, denomination and the respective captions.

At this point in the process, it is necessary to assess the accuracy of the conversion from the origination to the reproduction.

PROOFS

Colour proofing of the initial reproduction work is a vital stage in proving the quality of work completed and only when satisfied will the proofs be submitted to the issuing authority for their approval to proceed with production.

Once approved the stamp proofs are returned to the reproduction department for duplication in the manner in which the issuing authority specifies. This may be in sheets of 25 stamps, 50 stamps or 100 or any one of the numerous different styles of sheet layout that are available. The multi-image duplication is

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STAMP '95

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again carried out via a computer system.

Finally the digital image is output to film and then photographically transferred to the offset printing plate.

PAPER

Before proceeding further, it is necessary to mention something about the papers that are used for stamp production.

In general terms the papers are of relatively light weight, they are coated in a china clay composition and gummed with a re-moistenable gum, that is except for the self-adhesive varieties.

Looking a little closer into the types of papers that are in common use, there are those with, watermarks, phosphor coatings, silk and fluorescent fibres, OBA and Non-OBA coatings and bodies, different types of gum and gum colours.

Depending on the requirements of the specification, the appropriate paper will be issued for the production, against the order instructions. Control of the paper and the product is of paramount importance to the security printer and, therefore, a substantial amount of effort goes into this element of production.

The printing processes suitable for the reproduction of quality postage stamps are offset lithography, gravure and recess.

OFFSET LITHOGRAPHY

The House of Questa, utilise the offset lithographic process for stamp production by sheet-fed, multi-unit presses. The process involves the use of water, to create a layer of moisture over the non-image areas of the printing plate and a paste ink for the image areas of the plate. On the principle that grease and water do not mix the process functions very effectively, as long as the balance between the water and ink is maintained. The ink is transferred from the printing plate to an offset blanket, made from a composite material, and then transferred to the paper under impression. Each unit of the press prints one colour on to the sheet, as the sheet travels through the press.

The presses are made-ready by mounting the printing plates on to the press, one plate per unit, the paper is supplied to the press, the printing inks are issued and the ink ducts charged. The presses are computer controlled to assist with the registration of each of the plates and colours being printed. Before starting the print run, a sheet is presented for approval, to ensure that it matches, in all respects, the original design and or the proof that the issuing authority approved. Once approved, the production run commences and then it is monitored throughout to ensure that the result matches the approved sheet, both visual inspection and reflection densitometers are used to monitor and confirm the results.

On completion of the printing stage, the sheets of stamps are transferred to the finishing department.

PERFORATIONS

The first operation is that of perforating the stamp images. This is carried out using a combe perforating die and sheet perforator, a relatively slow process but nonetheless accurate, in this process the sheets pass under the combe head and at each row of stamps the head is brought down and punches the perforated shape of the stamp.

When perforating has been completed, the work then moves to the examiners for a 100% inspection, sheet by sheet. Sheets are removed for imperfections such as colour variation, spots, hickies, registration of colour or perforation, in essence if it should not be there, then the sheet is condemned to waste.

Finally, the 'good' is balanced to ensure that the specified quantity has been achieved and the 'waste' is counted to ensure that the total material balances with that, that was issued originally, prior to printing.

RIGID SECURITY

The closing stages of the production are those of trimming the sheets to the final size specified. The stamps are then packed for despatch, there are many different packing styles that have to be catered for but they all involve rigid security procedures and documentation.

Delivery completes the production process and the issuing authority prepares the stamp issue for release.

Many ancillary elements come together at this point to ensure that the issue is available to the philatelist and to the Post Offices, by the due date.

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COLLECTING MEMORIES

The world is getting smaller, technology is getting faster and spare time is getting shorter, yet despite all this it is encouraging to learn that stamp collecting is as popular as ever.

'OVER THREE MILLION PEOPLE CAN'T BE WRONG'

In fact, for over three million people in the UK alone, stamp collecting is an all-consuming passion and a favourite hobby. For many collectors the issue dates of the new special stamps produced by Royal Mail are the most eagerly anticipated times of the year. These issues are produced each year to commemorate special days and occasions and for generations, beautiful, colourful, British stamps have kept a fascinating record of the country's heritage and the British way of life. Many collectors go to great lengths and enormous effort cataloguing their stamps, whilst others concentrate on pursuing a particular theme.

Stamp collecting dates back to 1840, when the very first adhesive stamp, the Penny Black, was produced. Since then literally thousands of stamps have been produced, featuring almost every conceivable subject and a host of famous faces ranging from Winston Churchill to Dennis the Menace.

Research indicates that collectors come from all walks of life, but they tend to be more male than female, although women are more likely to buy stamps as gifts. There are also a great many children who collect stamps, especially those between the ages of seven and fourteen. In addition a number of well known celebrities ranging from MPs to pop stars are serious collectors.

SPECIAL STAMPS CELEBRATION AND COMMEMORATION

Each year the Royal Mail produces nine new sets of special stamps, which have won numerous awards. Over 2000 suggestions for stamp issues are received every year, yet the final chosen subjects must appeal to as broad a range of people as possible, as well as commemorate the most important events in British life.

Royal Mail's 1995 programme began in January with the first every, set of stamps dedicated exclusively to cats. A number of other important occasions are also to be marked with stamp issues, these include;

- National Trust centenary, 11 April.
- The centenary of 'The Time Machine' by HG Wells, 6 June.
- The project to rebuild Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London, 8 August.
- The centenary of the foundation of Rugby League and the Rugby League World Cup, 3 October.

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Through the Bureau, dedicated collectors or first-time enthusiasts can collect a variety of stamp items ranging from First Day Covers to mint stamps. In addition a 'nominee' service is available, allowing customers to send any of the Bureau's products as gifts to friends or relatives.

Royal Mail's wide range of special products includes collector plates, pyramid paperweights, postcards and attractive books available from the Philatelic Bureau.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- The Bureau services more than 250,000 customers in over 130 countries worldwide.
- There are 200 staff based at the Bureau who deal with approximately 20,000 requests for information every year.
- First Day Covers are the most popular item, with over 160,000 despatched on average for each new stamp issue.
- The most unusual query to date came from a customer asking where he could buy a letterbox! In fact letterboxes are occasionally available for sale, (those interested should contact their local District Postmaster).

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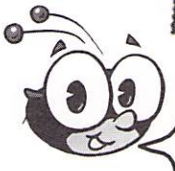

Find the following hidden stamp related words in the grid below:
Album, Card, Collector, Eyeglass, Letter, Penny Black, Post Box, Sammy, Stamp.

P O A L B U M T R L
O E A B U T R L O A
S Y N C D A M R T P
T E A N B D R A C L
B G L P Y C A G E B
O L N E A B D T L M
X A M G T C L Q L N
M S P F W T Q A O D
T S A M M Y E D C K
Z S T A M P R R I K

Unscramble the following words to reveal what is included in the Collectors Club Starter Pack:

KRESSTIC

LANECARD

MASTPS

AZIGNAME

ADGEB

PIESREMMBHDRAC

TWO SPECIAL POSTMARKS FOR STAMP '95

The special Stamp '95 handstamp is available on each of the four days throughout the show and will be applied to mail posted in the special box provided on the Royal Mail Stand.

A second special handstamp will be in use on the last day of the show only, 30 April, commemorating the last day of sale of Royal Mail's first self-adhesive stamp, the first class NVI, issued on 19 October 1993.

These stamps, which were sold in booklets of 20 and were trialled in the Newcastle area proved 'not to meet the exacting standards set by Royal Mail for its products'. They were taken off sale in the trial area in 1994 but remain on philatelic sale until 28 April 1995.

The booklets are, however, staying on sale at the Royal Mail stand at Stamp '95 for a further two days making Stamp '95 the only place in the country where the stamps are available from a Royal Mail source.

Items to receive the special cancellation should be placed in the special posting box on the Royal Mail Stand.

THE STAMP '95 SOUVENIR SHEET

Litho printed by The House of Questa, one of the world's leading security stamp printers, the Stamp '95 souvenir sheet features the famous 1925 1d. Wembley stamp, in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the British Empire Exhibition of that year.

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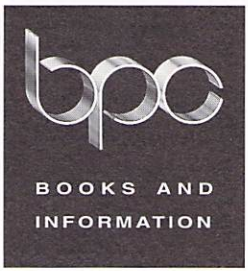

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The Children's Society, one of the country's foremost childcare charities, was founded in 1881 in response to poverty and homelessness amongst children in London. Today, it is still an independent charity continuing to address the same problems and many others nationwide which affect the lives of children, young people and their families.

The Society provides safe houses as refuges for runaways, family centres offering support and friendship to those affected by modern day pressures, bed-sit schemes for youngsters making the transition to independent living and drop-in centres in schools for students requiring counselling. All activities which are of the most profound benefit both to individuals and communities, especially in the more deprived areas of the country.

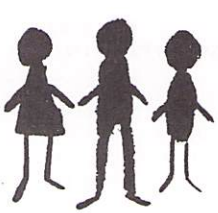
BID GENEROUSLY

With the strong emphasis on youth at Stamp '95, it is appropriate that The Children's Society will be the beneficiary of a special charity auction to be held during a VIP and celebrity reception on the evening of Friday 28 April.

Donations of stamps, postal history and memorabilia have been received from collectors, the philatelic trade and celebrities and auction lots may be viewed on stand F6.

All visitors to the show are welcome to attend the auction, tickets to which are available on request from the valuations and viewing stand (F6).

The auction will be opened by actress Cheryl Kennedy at 8.00 p.m. please come and, above all, BID GENEROUSLY!



The Children's Society

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THE JOY OF COLLECTING FIRST AIR MAILS

Peter Jennings FRPSL describes the background to his special exhibit at STAMP '95: 'Douglas Gumbley - From Air Mail To Air Letter'.

Every first air mail has a story to tell, and collecting pioneer air mails, the records of the birth of the air age, has long captivated the attention of serious philatelists. There is a special thrill and excitement about collecting covers flown across dangerous and uncharted terrain by intrepid pioneer flyers.

My grandfather encouraged me to start collecting used stamps of Great Britain when I was six years old. After looking longingly through the pages of the Stanley Gibbons catalogue I soon came to the inevitable realization that a considerable bank balance was necessary to form a worthwhile collection of classic stamps.

I needed to find an interesting, largely neglected, and inexpensive niche where I could make my mark as a philatelist. In 1962 I joined Birmingham Philatelic Society, and started collecting and writing about the aerogrammes of Great Britain.

In 1966 I was elected to membership of The Royal Philatelic Society, London, and in 1969 attended several of the celebrations to mark the centenary of the world's oldest, and most prestigious philatelic society. Members were extremely kind and generous with their time, encouragement and advice.

INVENTOR AND DESIGNER

During 1972 I was particularly fortunate to have the opportunity of a long meeting with Mr Douglas William Gumbley, 1880-1973, the inventor and designer of the world's first air mail letter card, at his home on the Isle of Wight. Though 91 years of age, Gumbley vividly recalled his eventful years as Inspector General of Posts and Telegraphs in Iraq, 1920-34, during the time Britain held the Mandate to run the country.

Gumbley made an important contribution to the development of air post and aviation during his years of service in the Middle East. In 1923 he initiated a successful overland mail system between Baghdad, Damascus and Haifa, and masterminded the planning and building of a new airport for Baghdad opened in 1933.

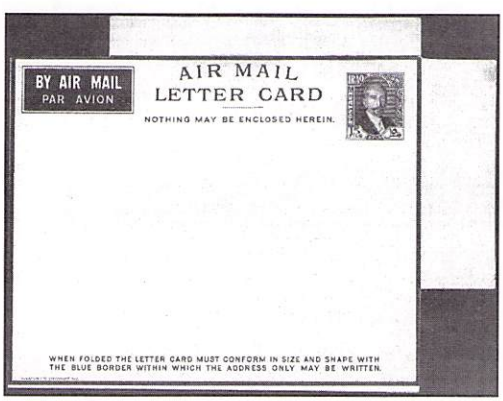
THWARTED BY THE AUTHORITIES

Most of all Gumbley wanted to start an air mail service in Iraq without surcharge. Though thwarted by the postal authorities, he succeeded in reducing the relatively high cost of sending a letter by the newly developing air services passing through Baghdad and Basra, on their way down to the Gulf to India and beyond. For this purpose he designed and had printed an Air Mail Letter Card of specific size and weight, which was issued by Iraq on 15 July 1933 and registered at Stationers' Hall, London, under his own copyright. A UPU (Universal Postal Union) 'specimen' of the Iraq Air Mail Letter Card, signed for me by Gumbley, is included in the exhibit.

In 1935 Gumbley moved to Palestine where he remained as Director of Civil Aviation until 1947. While in Palestine he was responsible for the building and operation of Lydda Airport, the airport for Tel-Aviv. Later Gumbley retired to the Isle of Wight.

AN AID TO MAINTAINING MORALE

Gumbley told me that during the early part of World War II, the Australian Government had asked him if he could provide a cheap and rapid means of communication between the AIF in the Middle East and their families as an aid to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LETTER CARD
NOTHING MAY BE ENCLOSED HEREIN.
WHEN FOLDED THE LETTER CARD MUST CONFORM IN SIZE AND SHAPE WITH THE BLUE BORDER WITHIN WHICH THE ADDRESS ONLY MAY BE WRITTEN.

Gumbley's 1933 Iraq air mail letter card showing the arrangement of the flaps (left).

maintaining morale. 'I suggested the adaptation and use of my Iraq Air Mail Letter Card, and this was readily taken up by the Australian Command,' he said.

Sadly, Gumbley died on 5 February 1972, shortly before my book *Aerogrammes* was due to be published. This book, dedicated as a tribute to his enterprise, tells the story of the invention of the Iraq Air Mail Letter Card and the development of the aerogramme with particular reference to Great Britain.

Meanwhile, I continued to research the life and times of Douglas Gumbley, and the expansion of air post and aviation in Iraq. I became captivated and I turned my attention to the early pioneer and survey flights, reflected in the Stamp '95 exhibit.

THE EXHIBIT

Among the famous pioneer flights included are: 1910 (17 August), the first aerial mail flight in England, Blackpool-Southport, during the first aviation meeting in England. 1911 (18 February), the first official airmail flight in the world in connection with the United Provinces Exhibition at Allahabad, India. 1911 (9 September), the first UK aerial post to commemorate the Coronation of King George V, himself a keen philatelist. 1918 (December), the first RAF aerial mail Cairo-Delhi. 1919 (9 January), Baghdad-Delhi in the 'Old Carthusian'. 1919 (24 February), RAF flight Baghdad-Cairo, an important precursor of the famous 'Desert Air Mail Service' operated by the RAF until replaced by Imperial Airways in December 1926. Also shown are first flights to and from Iraq, a vital stage on the Empire route to British India.

Carefully selected photographs of Gumbley are specifically included to capture the life and times of this innovative and visionary Englishman, whose Obituary I was privileged to write for *The Times* (9 February 1973).

FORCES LETTER ANIVERSARY

April 1995 is the 50th anniversary of the Great Britain 'Forces Letter' - a special air letter form at a reduced postage rate of 1d. for use by and to military personnel serving in different theatres of World War II. The forms were transported by air whenever possible.

The service was inaugurated on 7 April 1945, primarily for troops serving in North Africa and the Middle East, extended to South Africa and West Africa towards the end of April, and to Australasia in mid-July. A 'specimen' form together with a used form showing the 'Victory Bells' postmark are included.

Meanwhile, it is worth recalling what Mr A Phillips, air mail specialist of Newport, Mon, wrote in the January 1940 issue of his *Air Mail Magazine:*

'Collecting First Air Mails – Throughout the ages man has dreamed of flying, but it is our good fortune to be living in the period that has witnessed the realisation of this urge to conquer the air... Is there any other hobby in the world that can vie with ours? In the comfort of an armchair one can follow the hair-raising experiences of the pioneer pilot, or can travel round the world on regular air services, and the proof of this is in the pages of an album. What other hobby contains such a story?'

These words are as true today, as they were when written 55 years ago. Take a few minutes to look at the letter from General Headquarters, Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force, dated 9 January 1910 – 'My dear Girlie, This is only a scrappy note just to take advantage of the five minutes available to send you a line by the first Aeroplane to carry mails from Mesopotamia'.

Collecting first Air Mails is indeed a wonderful and most rewarding hobby!

Peter Jennings' exhibit 'Douglas Gumbley: From Air Mail to Air Letter,' was awarded a large vermeil, and the special British Philatelic Trust award at Eur-Apex '93 in London, and a large vermeil, and special Shell Australia prize at Aeropex '94, held in Adelaide in November 1994. After Stamp '95 it will be completely remounted for the full world exhibition Istanbul '96, in Turkey.

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AIR MAIL
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IF ANYTHING IS ENCLOSED THIS CARD WILL BE SENT BY ORDINARY MAIL
PASSED BY CENSOR
No. 1791
A.I.F.
NE 6.
Mrs. R. A. Gattlin,
7 Abbott Street,
Sandringham, S.E.
Victoria,
AUSTRALIA.
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congratulate Stanley Gibbons and Royal Mail
on their excellent support of this event
and we are proud to be involved directly with them both.

We've packed so much into our stand at the new Stamp '95 exhibition, the only thing we've got room for is you.

The Penny Black. Freddie Mercury's collection. Books, gifts, souvenirs, and stamps of all kinds.

The Collector's Club for kids and the British Philatelic Bureau. You'll find them all and much more on the Royal Mail Stand – that's Stand 130 – at Stamp '95.

There's lots to buy, lots to see and admission is free. So see you there.

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